

Torino, 17 of March 2023

# Partnership with Boston and Northern Virginia Regional Commission

Xavier Tiana  
Head of International Relations  
Barcelona Metropolitan Area

## Cooperation in energy efficiency in buildings, public space, urban planning, urban mobility and housing

### Challenge: Greening the metropolis

- The metropolis of Barcelona: 636 km<sup>2</sup>, 3.3 million inhabitants, 36 municipalities
- Some of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in the EU
- 52% of the urban surface is considered green and blue infrastructure
- Climate change affecting the beaches (30km)
- Metropolitan government: Keep protecting and increasing green and blue infrastructure



## Greening the metropolis

### Solution

- Political priority
- Holistic vision: Natural parks, rivers, beaches, urban parks, Agricultural park...
- Green infrastructure key axis in the AMB New Urban Master Plan and other territorial plans
- AMB Investment Plans and ERDF projects
- Partnership with the 36 municipalities and other stakeholders





## Greening the metropolis

### Solution: Inspiration from IURC

- Share similar challenges and wills
- Boston and NVRC partner with civil society organisations
- Citizens and ethnic minorities involvement
- City Government structures like the Mayor's Office of Urban Mechanics in Boston or the NVRC



## IURC: Opportunities for stakeholders

- IURC is a great opportunity for the AMB International Strategy 2021-2024
- AMB has shared some inspiring solutions on multilevel governance like the Low Emissions Zone Barcelona
- The work has been focused in the scope of the 3 metropolitan governments
- Agreement of the partners to promote contacts with the Universities and Research centres ecosystem
- There is room for cooperation with the private sector

## IMPACT: TO BE DISCUSSED

- European and North American cities face many challenges that go beyond their administrative boundaries (air quality, housing, transport, urban planning, employment, waste and water management, security...)
- Metropolitan solutions can be more efficient than city solutions
- Promote metropolitan institutions and other supralocal cooperation schemes
- Member States and the EU should admit the metropolitan reality of their territories and provide funding for their projects (National Programmes, Cohesion Policy, Next Generation EU...)
- The EMA network: 55 European metropolitan countries, 93 million inhabitants



# Thank you!

[xtiana@amb.cat](mailto:xtiana@amb.cat)

<http://ema.amb.cat/>